

Message Text

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S/S - TRPICKERING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203630

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, PK, EG, IS, SY

SUBJ: PAK AMBASSADOR CALL ON DEPUTY SECRETARY

FOLLOWING MEMCON NOT SEEN BY DEP SEC BUT CLEARED BY HIS
OFFICE.

SUMMARY: PAK AMBASSADOR SULTAN KHAN MET WITH DEPUTY
SECRETARY AT FORMER'S INITIATIVE ON SEPTEMBER 12. DEPSEC'S
SPECIAL ASSISTANT ROBERTS AND HOLMES, NEA/PAB, ALSO
PRESENT. DEPSEC ADVISED KHAN THAT USG UNABLE PROVIDE
MORE THAN 100,000 TONS WHEAT ALREADY PROMISED BUT WOULD
MOVE SOON WITH 40,000 TONS VEGOIL AND 40,000 TONS
SORGHUM. KHAN IGNORED NEWS ON SORGHUM, EXPRESSED REGRET
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AT USG RESPONSE ON WHEAT AND PROFESSED HIS INABILITY TO
UNDERSTAND DECISION IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCES
OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR PAKISTAN. KHAN ASKED IF
DECISION WAS FINAL AND WAS TOLD IT WAS. BRIEF DISCUSSION
OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION FOLLOWED. END SUMMARY.

1. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR SULTAN KHAN CALLED ON DEPUTY
SECRETARY RUSH OCTOBER 12 TO DISCUSS PAKISTAN'S FOOD NEEDS
AND USG P.L. 480 AVAILABILITIES. FOLLOWING BRIEF

EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES, SULTAN KHAN NOTED PRESIDENT NIXON'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO THREE WEEKS AGO CONCERNING PAKISTAN'S FOOD SITUATION. HE SAID GOP HAD NOT BEEN SITTING IDLY BY IN INTERVENING PERIOD.

GOP HAS SINCE BHUTTO'S WASHINGTON VISIT BOUGHT 250,000 TONS WHEAT IN CANADA BUT AT A PRICE IN EXCESS OF U.S. PRICES. GOP HAD BOUGHT IT AS PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES 5-7 MILLION DOLS. WORTH OF ASSISTANCE, HE ADDED, BUT FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS TO GOP, INCLUDING THE ASSISTANCE, IS IN EXCESS OF CIF COSTS IN U.S. HE HAD ALSO JUST RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO GO INTO U.S. MARKET FOR 100,00 TONS OF WHEAT. PM BHUTTO FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT USG HAS ITS OWN PROBLEMS, HE SAID, BUT GOP NEEDS WERE LARGE AND PURCHASE OF ENTIRE ONE MILLION TONS BEYOND THEIR MEANS. UNLESS PAKISTAN GETS HELP ON 500,000 TONS, IT WILL BE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE.

2. DEPUTY SECRETARY EXPRESSED OUR APPRECIATION FOR PAKISTAN'S NEEDS BUT SAID WE UNABLE TO DO AS MUCH AS WE HAD HOPED. HE SAID IT NOW APPEARED WE COULD MOVE VERY SOON ON 40,000 TONS OF SORGHUM, AND 40,000 TONS OF

VEGETABLE OIL BUT THAT ON WHEAT USG CAN DO NOTHING BEYOND 100,000 TONS OF WHEAT ALREADY PROMISED. SULTAN KHAN RESPONDED THAT HE VERY SORRY TO HEAR THIS, HE REGRETS THIS NEWS AND WOULD CONVEY IT IMMEDIATELY TO HIS GOVERNMENT. HE ASKED IF HE COULD TAKE THIS AS QUOTE A FINAL WHITE HOUSE DECISION? UNQTE. DEPSEC INDICATED THIS WAS CORRECT. HE WENT ON TO SAY IT IS NOT EASY ONE FOR US BECAUSE THERE IS NO LACK OF DESIRE ON OUR PART TO BE HELPFUL, BUT OUR WHEAT RESOURCES ARE SO CONFIDENTIAL

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LIMITED WE DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN BE MORE HELPFUL. SULTAN KHAN REPLIED HE COULD UNDERSTAND IT IF IT WERE QTE A SUPPLY POSITION UNQTE BUT IF IT IS A QTE BUDGET QUESTION I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT UNQTE. HE THEN WENT ON TO NOTE THAT WHEAT IS AVAILABLE ON U.S. MARKET AND ASKED IF LIMITATION OF 100,000 TONS INCLUDED CCC. DEPSEC SAID THAT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING BUT THAT HE WOULD HAVE THIS CHECKED.

3. SULTAN KHAN THEN RECALLED WHAT HE SAID WERE THE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCES THAT THE USG WOULD DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO BE HELPFUL TO PAKISTAN AND SAID THIS (MEANING FOOD ASSISTANCE) IS WHERE U.S. CAN BE HELPFUL. HE THEN POINTEDLY ADDED QTE I TAKE IT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S PROMISE OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IS NOT TO BE FULFILLED. UNQTE. DEPSEC REPLIED THAT IN THIS AREA (REFERRING TO WHEAT) USG NOT IN POSITION DO MORE.

4. TURNING TO MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, DEPSEC SAID ISRAELIS HAVE NOW BROKEN THROUGH SYRIANS' POSITIONS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS AND HAVE MOVED SIX MILES INTO SYRIA. HE SAID

HE DID NOT THINK THE ISRAELIS WERE INTENT ON TAKING DAMASCUS. ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT, THE SITUATION HAS NOT BEEN TERRIBLY ACTIVE. EGYPT HAS ADVANCED 6-10 MILES INTO SINAI AND HAS MOVED SAM'S ONTO EAST BANK OF SUEZ TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE COVER. THEY HAVE ESTABLISHED A STRONG BRIDGEHEAD ON THE EAST BANK, HE SAID.

THE USG IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE DIPLOMATICALLY TO BRING ABOUT CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. THE FIGHTING IS NOT RPT NOT NEAR AN END, HE SAID, BUT MAY GO ON FOR SOME WEEKS. WE ARE TALKING TO THE SOVIETS, THE COMBATANTS AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN HOPES OF REACHING A CONSENSUS FOR CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. WE HAVE NOT YET PUSHED A RESOLUTION, HOWEVER, BECAUSE WE WISH TO AVOID A SECURITY COUNCIL CONFRONTATION.

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SULTAN KHAN INQUIRED IF OUR POSITION WAS STILL THE SCALI POSITION OF STATUS QUO ANTE BELLUM. THE DEPSEC SAID IT COULD BE THAT THE COMBATANTS WILL DECIDE THAT IS WHAT THEY WANT, BUT IF STATUS QUO ANTE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION.

DEPSEC NOTED THAT SOVIETS HAVE CONDUCTED A MODERATELY HEAVY AIRLIFT TO SYRIA AND EGYPT. HE SAID USG HAS CONTINUED TO COUNSEL RESTRAINT IN RESUPPLY ON THE PART OF THE RUSSIANS. WE ARE SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGED BY THE LACK OF POLEMICS AND VERBAL CONFRONTATION IN OUR TALKS WITH SOVIETS AND WE CONTINUE BE HOPEFUL FOR DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. SULTAN KHAN INQUIRED IF USG IS SENDING HELP TO ISRAEL AND DEPUTY SECRETARY REPLIED THAT THIS WAS AREA OF DISCUSSION WHICH WE DO NOT GET INTO.

5. COMMENT: SULTAN KHAN WAS ATYPICALLY FROSTY. AFTER DEPSEC STATED THAT 100,000 TONS CONTINUED TO BE LIMIT OF OUR WHEAT ASSISTANCE, SULTAN KHAN SEEMINGLY OBLIVIOUS TO ALL ELSE, COMPLETELY IGNORING, FOR INSTANCE, AVAILABILITY OF 40,000 TONS OF SORGHUM.

ON WAY OUT OF BUILDING SULTAN KHAN REPEATED TO HOLMES THAT NEWS WAS VERY DISTRESSING. HOLMES SAID HE WAS SURE THE AMBASSADOR UNDERSTOOD THAT USG FULLY INTENDS TO CONTINUE WITH EXTENSIVE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

EVEN THOUGH MORE WHEAT NOT RPT NOT AVAILABLE. NOTED
ALSO SENATOR HUMPHREY'S LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL PROVIDING
INTER ALIA FOR 95 MILLION DOLS. IN ASSISTANCE TO
PAKISTAN. SULTAN KHAN DID NOT RESPOND. END COMMENT.

6. WE EXPECT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR CHARGE'S
USE IN REPLY TO PM'S QUERY THIS MATTER (ISLAMABAD 8789)
ASAP. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O, MR. TWOHIE
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